

## Editorial

During one of Fred Skinner's last interviews<sup>1</sup> in his basement study on Old Dee Road, he was asked to comment on his rather cluttered, makeshift desk complete with pigeonholes. "Like all things that grow," Fred replied, "it's functional." It is thus a pleasure to report that *The Behavior Analyst*, like Fred's desk, is functional too. In the last three years the manuscript submission rate has more than doubled, perhaps due in no small part to the extraordinary special section on teaching behavior analysis organized by Bill Heward and Dick Malott. But, in addition, and as promised in my first editorial, the journal has now published three fine Tutorials, written by Ben Williams and Jim Dinsmoor, and two classic Encore articles, written by Nat Schoenfeld and Michael Watkins.

Indeed, there is much within the pages of *The Behavior Analyst* of which we can be proud. And we can be especially proud of the members of the editorial board, who have done a phenomenal, if not at times heroic, job of maintaining the high standards set way back when Scott Wood first envisioned the journal. It has been a pleasure working with each and every one of them. So, as you may guess, stepping down as of this issue has its drawbacks. But Dan Bernstein has willingly agreed to take on the editor-

ship six months early and thus lighten my workload so I can take a few months off to recover from surgery and radiation treatment. As an aside, I am happy to report that I am doing very well and have been given an excellent prognosis. But, let's face it: It's hard to resist a vacation.

In leaving the job of editor after a two-and-a-half-year tenure, I am reminded of the many friendships that grew as a function of several people's unbelievable helpfulness. In addition to the editorial board members, I owe a special thank you to Kathy Hill for her efficiency and good humor as copyeditor, at times a Herculean task; Jay Moore, as past editor, for teaching me the editorial ropes, for being, if you will, Ariadne to my Theseus; Charlie Catania, as chair of the Publications Board, for teaching me decision making by means of the Socratic method, knowing full well that knowledge is not innate; Jack Marr, as associate editor, for adding to the journal pages a special touch of sophistication, for being the Stephen Dedalus of behavior analysis; and finally, Will Vaughan for spending so many Friday nights over a beer or two talking to me about the history, theory, and application of behavior analysis as they related to the many manuscripts that crossed my desk. In short, he became my cynosure.

It has been an honor to work for the journal. I hope I have done it justice.

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<sup>1</sup> Conducted in 1987 by Christopher Lydon, host of "The Ten O'Clock News," WGBH, Boston's public television station.

Margaret Vaughan  
Editor